

## Amendments to the Specification

Insert after the title of the invention:

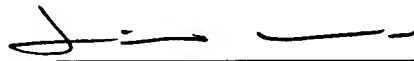
### RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of U.S. application No. 10/096,276, filed March 13, 2002 which in turn is a divisional of U.S. application No. 09/394,688, filed September 13, 1999 now U.S. patent number 6,463,410.

Page 46, third full paragraph:

The embodiment of Fig. 15 includes a lossless encoder 2E and a lossless decoder 3E which replace the lossless encoder 2D and the ~~loss~~ lossless decoder 3D (see Fig. 1) respectively. The lossless encoder 2E follows a channel correlation circuit "A". The lossless decoder 3E precedes a channel correlation circuit "B".

Respectfully submitted,



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